

OFFICE OF THE LT. GOVERNOR, JULIANA STRATTON
 Illinois Council on Women and Girls
 Quarterly Meeting Minutes
 August 26th, 2020

A present majority of current non-ex-officio members shall constitute a quorum: i.e. 11				
Position	Name	Present	Phone	Absent
Ex-Officio Mem.				
Chair, Ex-Officio (LG's Office)	Lt. Governor Juliana Stratton		X	
Ex-Officio (Refugee & Immigrant Services, DHS)	Lilian Jimenez (Director Grace Hou)			X
Ex-Officio (Dept. on Aging)	Selma D'Souza (Director Paula Basta)			X
Ex-Officio (Dept. of Human Rights)	Donna Hardy (Director James Bennett)		x	
Ex-Officio (Dept. of Children & Family Services)	Gaylon Alcaraz (Director Marc Smith)			X
Ex-Officio (Dept. of Healthcare & Fam. Services)	Director Theresa Eagleson			X
Ex-Officio (Dept. of Pub. Health)	Director Ngozi Ezike			X
Ex-Officio (Dept. of Labor)	Marina Faz-Huppert (Director Michael Kleinik)			X
Ex-Officio (State Board of Ed.)	Jaclyn Matthews (Director Carmen Ayala)		x	
Ex-Officio (Board of Higher Ed.)	Director Ginger Ostro		x	
Ex-Officio (Community College Board)	Natasha Allan (Director Brian Durham)			X
Pub. Mem. (Gov.)				
Pub. Mem. (Gov.)	Candace Coleman		x	
Pub. Mem. (Gov.)	Jennifer Lee			X
Pub. Mem. (Gov.)	Nikita Richards		x	
Pub. Mem. (Gov.)	Veronica Espina		x	
Pub. Mem. (House Min.)				
Pub. Mem. (House Min.)	Ines Kutlesa		x	
Pub. Mem. (House Min.)	Rhonda Thomas		x	
Pub. Mem. (House Min.)	Theresa Forthofer		x	
Pub. Mem. (House Min.)	Amanda Basso			X
Pub. Mem. (House Speaker)				
Pub. Mem. (House Speaker)	Aileen Kim		x	
Pub. Mem. (House Speaker)	Kaethe Morris Hoffer		x	
Pub. Mem. (House Speaker)	Maaria Mozaffar		x	
Pub. Mem. (House Speaker)	Wendy Pollack		X	
Pub. Mem. (Sen. Min.)				

OFFICE OF THE LT. GOVERNOR, JULIANA STRATTON
 Illinois Council on Women and Girls
 Quarterly Meeting Minutes
 August 26th, 2020

Pub. Mem. (Sen. Min.)	Brandy Donaldson			x
Pub. Mem. (Sen. Min.)	Vidhya Prakash		x	
Pub. Mem. (Sen. Min.)	Monique Garcia		x	
Pub. Mem. (Sen. Min.)	Pamela Althoff			
Pub. Mem. (Sen. Pres.)				
Pub. Mem. (Sen. Pres.)	Amina Jaffer		x	
Pub. Mem. (Sen. Pres.)	Drella Savage		x	
Pub. Mem. (Sen. Pres.)	Rochelle Crump		x	
Pub. Mem. (Sen. Pres.)	Sylvia Matos-Collins		x	
Rep. of Gov.'s Office Mem.				
Rep. of Gov.'s Office	Dep. Governor Sol Flores			x
Guest (non-member)				
Guest, Representative	Representative Anna Moeller			X
Guest, Senator	Senator Jackie Collins			x
Guest, DCEO	Ibie Hart		x	
Guest	Kelly Fair		x	

- I. Call to Order / Roll Call
 - a. Lt. Governor Stratton called the quarterly meeting to order at 5:33 PM
- II. Approval of Agenda, Approval of Meeting Minutes from 6.23.20
 - a. Roll Taken and Quorum established
 - b. Approval of Agenda
 - i. Moved by Vidhya Prakash
 - ii. Seconded by Nikita Richards
 - iii. All in favor
 - iv. No opposition
 - v. No abstentions
 - c. Approval of Meeting Minutes from 6.3.20
 - i. Moved by Ines Kutlesa
 - ii. Seconded by Theresa Forthofer
 - iii. All in favor
 - iv. No opposition
 - v. No abstentions
 - d. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes from 6.23.20
 - i. Moved by Ines Kutlesa
 - ii. Seconded by Nikita Richards
 - iii. All in favor
 - iv. No opposition
 - v. No abstentions

OFFICE OF THE LT. GOVERNOR, JULIANA STRATTON
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August 26th, 2020

III. Chairperson's Remarks

- a. Lieutenant Governor thanks council for their letter to Governor Pritzker and the legislature following death of George Floyd, emphasizes the power of advocacy in the face of violence against black women and trans women.
- b. Lieutenant Governor introduces topic of women in technology, P33's Dr. Michelle Hoffman
 - i. Highlights the underrepresentation of women and women of color in STEM fields and the needs for government to support pipelines that bring more women into the work
 - ii. Provides a brief overview of Dr. Hoffman's work and efforts to make Illinois a technology hub for country

IV. New Business

- a. Presentation on Women and the Tech Industry from P33's Dr. Michelle Hoffman
 - i. Importance of institutions filling in gaps in technology and representation of women in technology
 - ii. Background on "Deep tech"
 1. A unique field of specialized, complex technology that is often patented as intellectual property and difficult to replicate due to its specificity
 2. Issues with inclusivity and representation in the field of Deep Tech
 3. Dr. Hoffman's personal experiences with the underrepresentation of women in technology, STEM high education and Deep Tech specifically
 - iii. Work of P33
 1. Deep Tech Platform to reinforce Chicago specific assets and help elevate Illinois to a tier 1 Deep Tech ecosystem
 2. Goals of building programs around inclusion and collaboration rather than simple diversity
 - iv. Questions
 1. Maaria Mozaffar: What the point of intervention is to more meaningfully include women, women of color in high level STEM fields?
 - a. Dr. Hoffman: Emphasizes that representation needs to be the first step so that girls feel seen and do not leave advanced science tracks as early as primary school, another issue is that the experience of women is often not visible or recognized, as well as the fact that women cannot put in same amount of time as men during their "prime childbearing years"

OFFICE OF THE LT. GOVERNOR, JULIANA STRATTON
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Quarterly Meeting Minutes
August 26th, 2020

- b. Lieutenant Governor: Makes a point about closing the gap in the digital divide and the importance of broadband accessibility.
 2. Lieutenant Governor: What is the most important thing we can be doing as a council to lift up this conversation?
 - a. Dr. Hoffman: Discusses the importance of encouraging women to pursue STEM in general and increasing inclusion efforts, but also the specific importance of highlighting and
 3. Nikita Richards: What can be done with the issues surrounding financial need and women in tech and STEAM – like the cost of obtaining licensure?
 - a. Dr. Hoffman: There needs to be greater emphasis on bringing people along and into specialized networks, that is often a game-changer in alleviating those issues
- b. Gender-Based Violence Committee Letter on Reducing the Rape Kit Backlog
 - i. Lieutenant Governor explains the plan for the Gender-Based Violence Committee to work alongside Deputy Governor Mitchell and his team to gather experts and leadership from Illinois State Police to have conversations on reducing the backlog
- c. **Motion:** Academic and Economic Opportunity Committee Youth Engagement Plan
 - i. Ibie Hart explains the proposal to include girls
 1. We want to listen to the girls and use their opinions to be a meaningful part of the council
 2. Terms for the girls would be two years long, we would connect with different groups to find them
 - a. Importance of accessibility of application
 - ii. Motion to accept the plan or modify
 1. Motioned by Vidhya Prakash
 2. Seconded by Jackie Mathews
 3. All in favor
 4. No opposition
 5. No abstentions
- d. Discuss 2021 ICWG Annual Report Updates
 - i. Lieutenant Governor discusses how the next report will focus on updating and supplementing recommendations from the inaugural report
 - ii. Revisiting issues regarding racial equity and justice and adjusting the report passed on the state’s changing policy needs in the face of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic

OFFICE OF THE LT. GOVERNOR, JULIANA STRATTON
Illinois Council on Women and Girls
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
August 26th, 2020

- iii. Office will be touching base with each committee for updates to add to report
- e. Committee Status Updates
 - i. Gender based violence committee – Ines Kutlesa
 - 1. Reducing the rape kit backlog through planned conversations with Deputy Governor’s staff, Illinois State Police
 - a. Main issue is the hiring of forensic scientists
 - ii. Academic and Economic Opportunity Committee – Ibie Hart
 - 1. Progress on the application and rubric for the plan to add girls to the council
 - 2. Call for anyone who would like to join the team to help administer the program
 - 3. Suggestion to put together a proclamation for women’s business month
 - a. Lieutenant Governor Stratton: That’s definitely something our team can discuss
 - iii. Health and Healthcare Committee – Dr. Vidhya Prakash
 - 1. Drafted letter for Health Equity Task Force Plan
 - a. Includes key questions regarding issues surrounding health equity versus disparity, which were researched by Danielle Calloway
 - b. Working to convene stakeholders for the task force
 - iv. Leadership and Inclusion Committee – Maaria Mozaffar and Nikita Richards
 - 1. Progress on the #LeadLikeaGirl proposal
 - a. Six goals to provide vehicles of support for girls in leadership
 - 2. Summit is being put together for spring
 - v. Questions
 - 1. Lieutenant Governor emphasizes the importance of Women’s Equality Day, the work of Ida B Wells and the work of the Council
- V. Member Updates
 - a. Nikita Richards
 - i. Success of mentorship program through businesses with kids who were mentored in Bloomington – are being supporting in their new jobs that are started
 - ii. Importance of exposure and support
 - b. Rochelle Crump

OFFICE OF THE LT. GOVERNOR, JULIANA STRATTON
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Quarterly Meeting Minutes
August 26th, 2020

- i. Emphasizing the concern for homeless women and the opportunity she has had to engage with them and support them. Brought up the story of Vanessa Guillen and the importance of supporting veterans and doing more.
 - c. Kelly Fayan
 - i. Work with the Chicago Public School Girls mentorship program – wanted to see if anyone was interest in connecting
 - ii. Announcement of the completion of her second book
- VI. Public Comments
 - a. No public comments.
- VII. Adjournment
 - a. Motion to adjourn meeting
 - b. Motioned by Ines Kutlesa
 - c. Seconded by Nikita Richards
 - d. All in favor
 - e. No oppositions
 - f. No abstentions
 - g. Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM
 - h. Next Meeting: 5:30PM December 16th, 2020